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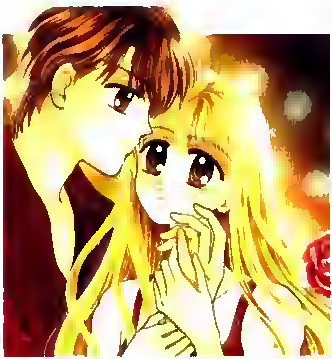

RIBON MASCOT COMICS

ベイビィ★LOVE

6

椎名あゆみ

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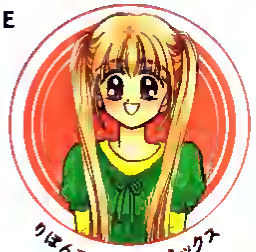


RIBON MASCOT COMICS 1078

ベイビィ★LOVE(ラブ)【6】

Baby • Love

MAIN CHARACTERS

Seto Shuuhei.

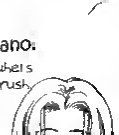
Member of the basketball club, a ninth-grade bishounen. Seara likes him.

Arisugawa Seara.

Sixth grader, a very tall and beautiful girl

Ayano.

Shuuhei's ex-crush



Rai.

Shuuhei's friend, fell for Seara at first sight

Seto Koharu.

Shuuhei's sister a sixth-grader against the idea of living with Seara

STORY SO FAR

Even though Seara is only a sixth grader she has the height of a high-schooler. For 4 years, she only has eyes for Shuuhei. Seara soon managed to move into Shuuhei's house and tried her best to become the one that Shuuhei likes.

Many things happened, but Seara finally passed Shuuhei's [trial period] and they could date! But Ayano's appearance changed everything, because Shuuhei told Seara 'I want to stay by Ayano's side.' Hurt and shocked Seara returned to her parents in New York without bidding Shuuhei goodbye.

Seara's mother in New York encouraged her to go back upon seeing Seara forcing herself to be happy. And so, Seara, with her feelings for Shuuhei returned to Japan.

A few days later, Seara met an old classmate, Arisa. It turns out that Arisa had been the one plotting against her, causing the entire school to alienate her. When the truth was revealed to Seara, she got mad and wanted to seek revenge. So Seara planned to get Subaru, the one Arisa likes, to go to her side. Koharu got worried and tried to stop her, but to no avail. However, under Shuuhei's advice, Seara began to realize that she was going too far.

MY RIVAL,
IS SHUUHEI, RIGHT?

ベイビィ★ラブレッスン
【6】

I...
DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO COM-PETE WITH YOU.
WHY ...?

BECAUSE YOU ARE TWO-TIMING?
SEARA TOLD ME,
THAT SHE LOST TO HER RIVAL AND GOT DUMPED.
SO THAT MEANS YOU ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE RIGHT?
What?
Where did he...
Hear that from...
About this?

BUT SEARA STILL LIKES YOU.
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T TELL SEARA YOUR FEELINGS.
IF YOU CARE ABOUT SEARA,
THEN LET HER GIVE UP ON YOU COMPLETELY.

DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
SHUU-CHAN! COME TRY THIS!
Made by the two of us!
DELI-CIOUS!
Oh yeah!
KOHARU IS GOING TO GIVE THIS TO WATARU ON VALENTINE'S DAY!
WAH! DON'T BE A BUSY-BODY!
SHUU-CHAN CAN LOOK FORWARD TO IT! ♡
RING
RING
AH! I'LL GET IT!
Hello, Seto residence.
BE-CAUSE
YOU'RE TWO-TIMING?

DAMN, THAT GUY!
SAYING WHATEVER HE WANTS, SO RUDE!
SORRY ABOUT LAST TIME.
OK, LET'S SET ANOTHER DATE NEXT TIME
HEY SE...RA ...
HAVEN'T YOU GIVEN UP ON REVENGE?
YEAH!
THEN WHY...
...H! SUBA-RU!?
Dron!
GOING TO A MOVIE WITH SUBARU PREVIOUSLY WAS TO MAKE ARISA MAD.
BUT THIS TIME, WE'RE GOING AS FRIENDS. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG, RIGHT?
ISN'T IT STILL THE SAME...?
THE MOOD'S DIFFERENT!
AND I NEED TO GIVE A REPLY TO SUBARU ...
OH!
WHAT?
NOTHING!

I'M SO IRRI-TATED!
ARISA HASN'T APOLO-GIZED TO ME!
ALTHOUGH I'VE DECIDED TO FORGET IT BUT I JUST CAN'T LET IT GO.
I should have punched her more!
AIR-PUNCH-ING
YOU CAN HAVE A SHOWDOWN WITH HER FACE-TO-FACE!
HUH? A SHOW-DOWN?
Don't laugh!
Ah!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WHAT IS IT THAT SHE IS CONFIDENT SHE WON'T LOSE?
WHAT'S ARISA GOOD AT?
HMM ....
SHE'S ALWAYS PLAYING BASKET-BALL, SO I THINK SHE SHOULD BE CONFIDENT IN THAT.
GOOD, THAT'S IT!

EH?

PANT!
PANT!
WAIT ...
WAIT A MINUTE!
WHY...
PANT!
PANT!
DON'T COMPLAIN AND RUN FASTER!
Why are you training me?

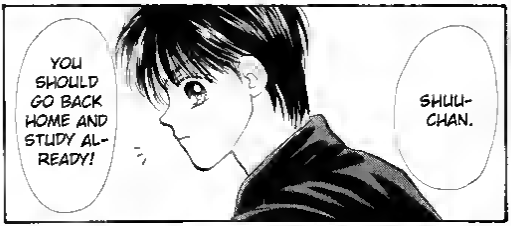
DIDN'T YOU GET INVITED TO JOIN THE BASKETBALL TEAM? THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE.
YUP! IF I SAID I WANTED TO JOIN, SHE'D SURELY BE HAPPY...
PTA MEMBERSHIP
Please join us! ♡
Having Seara is like having the strength of 100 people.
ARISA IS VERY GOOD AT IT
JUST TRAINING FOR A MONTH WON'T BE ENOUGH TO BEAT HER.
Besides, basketball is a team sport
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? WITH ME COACHING, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF!
Just running alone has made me dead beat!

AND FOR THIS COMPETITION...
IF YOU DON'T WIN, THERE'S NO MEANING TO IT!
SO YOU MUST GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT AND WIN!
YOU HAVE TO WIN!
YOU MUST WIN!
GOT THAT?
SFX IMPACT

YOU'RE NOT BAD AT HANDLING THE BALL!
I WAS IN THE LOCAL BASKETBALL CLUB FOR A YEAR.
BANG
BANG
BANG
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS SCORING.
HIT!
Didn't go in!
THIS BALL IS HEAVY!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS USE A SMALLER BALL!
I forgot!
ARE YOU SURE IT'S GONNA BE ALRIGHT?
...

A FEW DAYS LATER

AH --- I CAN'T TAKE IT!



"IF IT CONCERNS YOU, I CAN'T SIT BACK AND DO NOTHING!"...
DIDN'T I SAY BEFORE?

ANYWAY, LAST MINUTE STUDYING WON'T WORK SINCE I'M NOT BRAINY.
SHUU-CHAN...?
HA HA HA!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT--
IF YOU FAIL, YOU'D BE LAUGHED AT!
WHAT'S UP--
WHY THE SUDDEN INTEREST IN BASKET-BALL?

SUBARU PLAYS REALLY WELL.
Let's have a one on one later!
I'M MINAMI ELEMENTARY 'S TRUMP CARD, YOU KNOW!
↑ Didn't realize
Good work!
IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING A 3 ON 3 MATCH SO IT LOOKS INTER-ESTING.
HEH HEH! IT'S NOTH-ING!
LIM, SUBARU
I... FOUGHT WITH ARISA... ANYWAY, WE HAVE SOME DISPUTE BETWEEN US.
BUT... I STILL WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU... SO...
ACTUALLY... I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY THIS...
SO... I WANTED HER TO SEE ME BEING CLOSE TO YOU AND PISS HER OFF..

I'M SORRY!
I MADE USE OF YOUR FEELINGS!
I'M PA-THETIC...
YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLO-GIZE!
IF YOU'RE PATHETIC,
THEN I'M WORSE.
EH?
I HEARD THE REASON YOU GUYS FOUGHT,
ARISA'S FRIENDS TOLD ME
I... ACTU-ALLY DID NOTICE..
ARISA WAS ACTING STRANGE...
I THOUGHT MAYBE ARISA WAS THE CUL-PRIT...

SUBA-RU!?
I NOTICED IT, YET I DIDN'T CON-FIRM IT.
YOU ONLY RELIED ON ME,
I WAS VERY HAPPY...
BECAUSE SEARA...
RELIED ON ME A LOT.
THAT'S WHY WHEN I KNEW YOU WERE TRANSFER-RING TO AN-OTHER SCHOOL, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING..
I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO CONFESS TO YOU...
I REGRET THAT A LOT.

RAISE YOUR HAND!
YOU FORGIVE ME?
WE'VE BOTH TOLD EACH OTHER THE TRUTH!
DO YOU LOOK DOWN ON ME?
SWOOSH
SUBARU, I DON'T MEAN THAT..
BUT NOW THE STONE HAS BEEN LIFTED FROM MY HEART.
I'VE ALWAYS FELT SO GUILTY, IT WAS PAINFUL...
Ah!
Excited
AH-- THIS IS GREAT!
THIS WAY, I CAN CONFESS TO YOU PROPERLY--

I'M VERY HAPPY YOU LIKE ME
BUT I ALREADY HAVE SOMEONE I LIKE...
I KNOW.
SHUUHEI, RIGHT?
EH?!
ERM... SINCE YOU ALREADY KNOW...
BUT HAVEN'T YOU BEEN REJECTED? THEN IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM!
ERM... THAT'S TRUE...
I SWORE TO MYSELF, IF I SEE SEARA AGAIN, I'LL PROTECT HER PROPERLY!
PLEASE DON'T RANDOMLY MAKE THIS KIND OF VOW.
I COULD NEVER HAVE FEELINGS BEYOND FRIENDSHIP FOR SUBARU ...
THEN I'LL WAIT FOR YOU TO FORGET SHUUHEI!

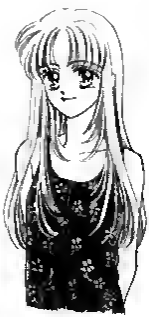
THIS FEELING OF NOT GIVING UP EVEN WHEN REJECTED,
IS JUST LIKE HOW I FEEL TOWARDS SEARA, SO-- I KNOW IT VERY WELL!
SNIF
TODAY IS VALENTINE'S DAY
SINCE YOU KNOW IT--
YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW I DON'T LIKE IT~~~
10 mins break!
I FINALLY UNDERSTAND HOW SHUUHEI FELT WHEN I CHASED AFTER HIM LAST TIME

WATARU. COME HERE A SEC..
ALTHOUGH I FEEL BAD TOWARDS SUBARU,
BUT EVEN IF I'M REJECTED OR HATED, I STILL WON'T LIKE ANYONE OTHER THAN SHUU-CHAN.

WHAT IS IT?
Secretly
4STEP STUDIO

HOW COULD YOU GIVE IT TO HIM LIKE THAT!
Touched

Turn
DASH
FOR YOU!!
EH!?



WILL SHUU-CHAN...
ACCEPT MY CHOCOLATES?
AH! IT'S RAIN-ING!
I WONDER IF SHUUHEI BROUGHT AN UM-BRELLA.
AH!
I'LL GO BRING HIM BACK!

AYANO!
WHAT'S WRONG? DIDN'T YOU BRING AN UMBRELLA?
I FORGOT...
THEN LET'S GO TO-GETHER!
ACTU-ALLY I WAS WAITING FOR YOU..
BECAUSE I WANTED TO GIVE THIS TO YOU.
WILL YOU ACCEPT IT?

I'M SORRY...
SHUUHEI ...?
I SAID BEFORE, WHEN YOU NEED ME, I WOULD DEFINITELY HELP.
IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, YOU CAN LOOK FOR ME ANYTIME ..
I WOULD COMFORT YOU..
BUT... I'M SORRY

Since I could give up so easily last time
All the more nothing will happen between us
I CAN-NOT
ACCEPT YOUR FEEL-INGS
I'M SORRY...!
I SEE...
HEARING YOU SAY SUCH THINGS IS A FIRST FOR ME...
I'M SO SILLY. YOU'VE BEEN SO GENTLE, THAT'S WHY I WAS HOPING...
SORRY.
IT'S MY FAULT,
I DIDN'T CONFIRM MY OWN FEEL-INGS PROP-ERLY...
SO NOW YOU KNOW...
WHO YOUR HEART BELONGS TO?

La la la! La la la .
It's raining...
♬
YES...
Ah ♡
SHUU-CHAN...
BATHUMP

SFX SLAM!
バタン
SEARA
—
!?
バタバタ
SFX RUNNING
WHAT HAP-PENED?
ドタドタ
SFX SLAM!
CRASH
ON HEART FOR SHUU-CHAN
ビリビリ
rustle

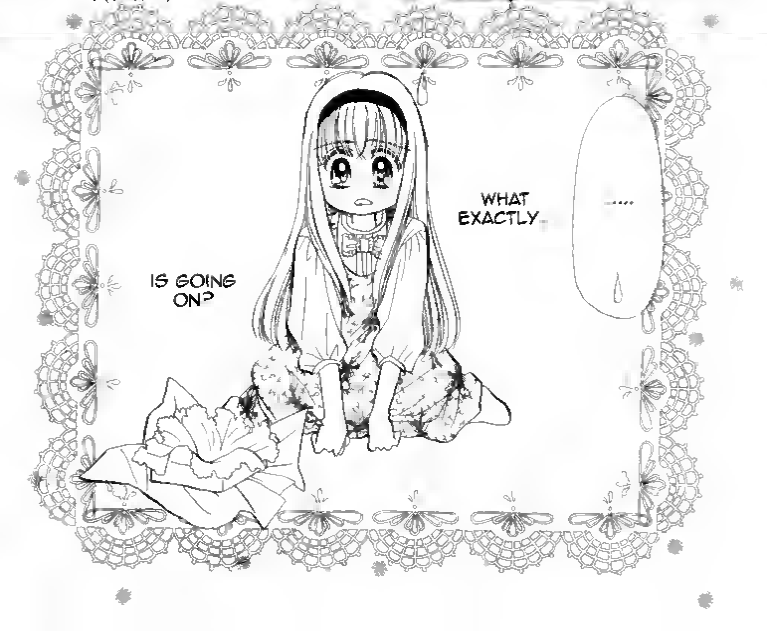
STILL..
JILTED!
LOOKS LIKE.
I'M..
AL-THOUGH I DON'T LIKE IT, I UNDER-STAND
I HAVEN'T SEEN AYANO LATELY,
SO I FORGOT.
BUT SEEING THAT SCENE JUST NOW..
(crying)

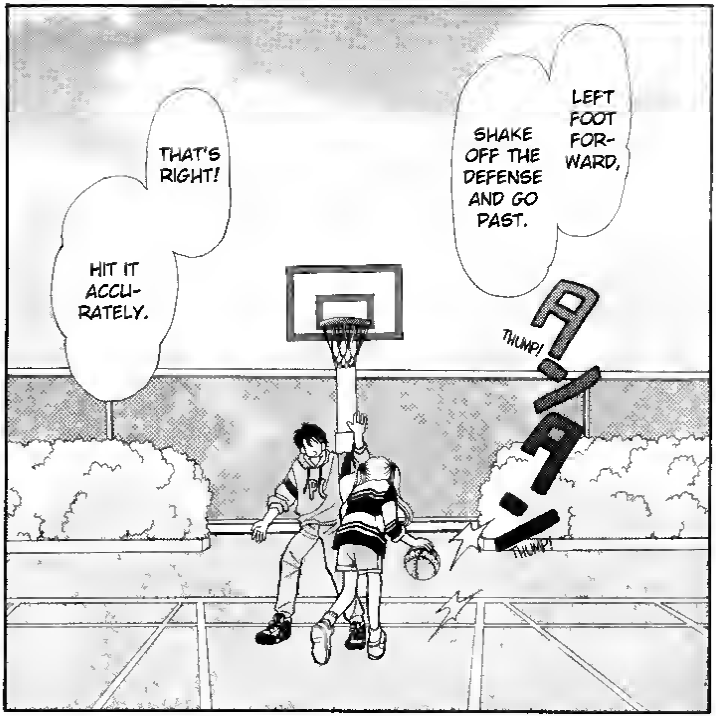
AS LONG AS AYANO IS HERE, IT WON'T MATTER HOW HARD I TRY...
MAYBE I DON'T HAVE ANY HOPE AT ALL!
KNOCK KNOCK!
SEARA, I'M COMING IN--
AH!
MY MUM TOLD ME YOU WENT TO FETCH ME?
Ya!
rustle
rustle
SORRY.
BUT I HAVE AN UMBRELLA...
WHAT'RE YOU HIDING BEHIND YOUR BACK?
NO... NOTHING.
LIAR!

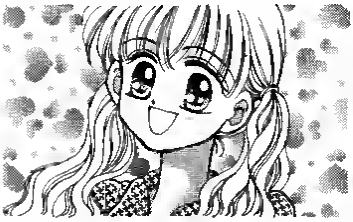
YA--
LET ME SEE!
WHY DID YOU BREAK IT?
.....
LOVE
ON HEART FOR SHUU-CHAN
EVEN IF I DIDN'T GIVE YOU,
YOU ALSO RECEIVED A LOT OF CHOCO-LATES DIDN'T YOU?
I DIDN'T!
ISN'T THIS FOR ME?
DON'T JUST TAKE IT AND EAT IT!
IT'S NOT!
!!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

EH!?
I DIDN'T ACCEPT THEM.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
WHY...?
BITE!
SFX. RUMBLE

カリ
カチャ
DELICIOUS!


.....
WHAT EXACTLY
IS GOING ON?


LEFT FOOT FOR-WARD,
SHAKE OFF THE DEFENSE AND GO PAST.
THAT'S RIGHT!
HIT IT ACCU-RATELY.
THUMP!
THUMP!



SWOOSH!!!
WHOOSH!!
GOOD! YOU'RE GETTING BETTER!
YOU WERE VERY ATHLETIC FROM THE START ANYWAY.
WHEN YOU WANT TO SCORE, BE SWIFT IN MOVING FORWARD,
REMEMBER TO BE IN A POSITION THAT ALLOWS YOU TO MOVE EASILY.
starenn
WHAT?
NO-NOTHING!
.....
I didn't accept any
Delicious!

WHY DIDN'T HE GET ANY?
IS SHUU-CHAN THAT UN-POPULAR WITH GIRLS?
It's be such a pity if it were true.

They were walking home together under an um-brella
UNLESS AYANO IS VERY PETTY?
WHAT ABOUT AYANO?

MAYBE HE REALLY DIDN'T GET ANY CHOCO-LATES...
OR MAYBE HE JUST WANTED MY CHOCO-LATES.
HEY! DON'T GO ZONING OFF...
AH!
HOW CAN THAT BE!
HE ONLY JUST FELT LIKE HAVING SOMETHING SWEET, THAT'S ALL! I'M THINK-ING TOO MUCH

RECENTLY...
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT SHUU-CHAN IS THINKING ABOUT MORE AND MORE
I told you...
If it concerns you, I can't just sit back and do nothing!
SAYING THOSE WORDS..
WHAT DO THEY MEAN?
MAYBE HE'S JUST PLAYING WITH ME..
Ya——!
AH!!
Hold
ARE YOU OKAY?
YEAH. SORRY...
!
STUCK!!

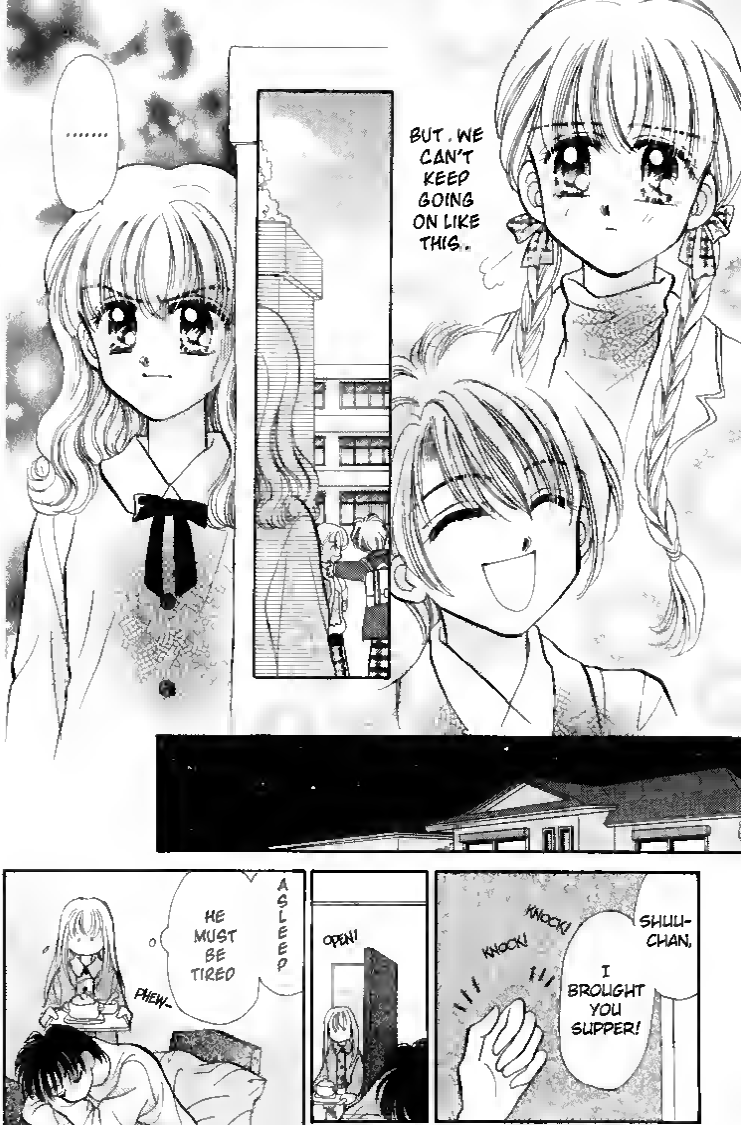
Blush...
THIS NECK-LACE IS...
OH NO!
IT'S TANGLED!
....
THAT'S STRANGE, I CAN'T GET IT OUT!
SEARA.
HUH?

AFTER THE GRADUATION CEREMONY...
AH!
AH! I GOT IT!
WHAT WAS THAT?
NO... NEVER MIND.
?
OH YES! THEY'VE ANNOUNCED THE DATE OF THE GRADUATION MATCH!
OH REALLY? I'LL BE CHEERING FOR YOU, SO YOU MUST PLAY WELL!
WHEN IS IT?
FEBRUARY 26TH
EH?!
AH...
SO...
THAT IS... ALSO THE DAY OF MY EXAM.

SHUU-CHAN WON'T BE ABLE TO COME AND SEE ME PLAY~~~~!
DASH!!
HI! SEARA --!
♡
TURN!!
WHY ARE YOU RUN-NING AWAY?
RUNNING
I TOLD YOU,
WE'RE JUST GOOD FRIENDS.
IF YOU STILL INSIST ON WOOING ME,
I WON'T SEE YOU ANY-MORE!
RUNNING
WHY?
WHY...

LETTING YOU THINK THAT YOU STILL HAVE ANY CHANCE WITH ME... THIS SORT OF THING...
I CAN'T DO IT.
BUT IT'S OKAY FOR SHUUHEI!
whispers-
HE ALREADY HAD A GIRL-FRIEND, YET HE STILL LET YOU THINK YOU HAVE A CHANCE...
AND MADE YOU HOLD ON TO HIM...
THIS SORT OF HEART-LESS PERSON ...
THAT'S BE-CAUSE I WAS OKAY WITH IT!
AS LONG AS... I CAN STAY BY HIS SIDE...
I'D BE VERY HAPPY...

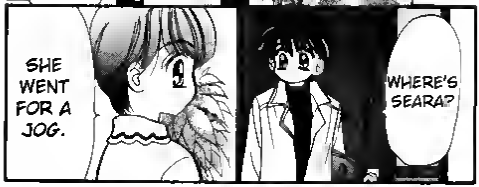
IF YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, I'LL MAKE IT CLEAR NOW!
YOU'RE MAKING ME VERY TROUBLED! I HATE IT THAT YOU'RE CLINGING ON TO ME!
どすどす
STAB! STAB! STAB!
SHUUHE! FEELS THE SAME ABOUT YOU.
ぷすっ PLUCK
どすどす
STAB! STAB! STAB!
I WON'T THINK YOU'RE A HEARTLESS PERSON FOR DELIBERATELY GIVING ME FALSE HOPE.
DON'T WORRY SEARA!
LOST ~ ...
SUBARU IS IN THE SAME SITUATION AS ME, SO I CAN'T BEAT HIM.
DARN ~~~~~~
WHAT MUST I DO TO MAKE HIM GIVE UP?
...
BAM!
AL-RIGHT... I ADMIT DEFEAT ...
WAH...


.....
BUT, WE CAN'T KEEP GOING ON LIKE THIS.
KNOCK! KNOCK!
SHUU-CHAN, I BROUGHT YOU SUPPER!
OPEN!
ASLEEP
HE MUST BE TIRED
PHEW-

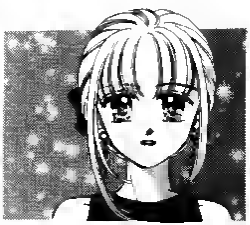
SUBARU CONFESSED TO ME, YET I'M UNABLE TO RETURN HIS FEELINGS. THIS SAD FEELING... I FINALLY UNDERSTAND HOW SHUU-CHAN FEELS.
OF COURSE HE'S TIRED
HE STAYS UP AT NIGHT TO STUDY, YET HE STILL HELPS ME TO PRACTICE..
SIGH
IF STAYING BY SHUU-CHAN'S SIDE MAKES HIM HURT...
SAYING IT'S OKAY JUST TO STAY BY HIS SIDE, THAT'S ALL A LIE!
CLOSE!
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE HIM.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM SUFFER.
Huu~...
ZZZZZZZ

IF THIS GOES ON...
MY FEELINGS FOR SHUU-CHAN WILL GET STRONGER..
IN THE END, I'LL JUST BRING MORE SUFFERING TO SHUU-CHAN ..
MAYBE NOW...IT'S TIME FOR ME TO GET RID OF ALL MY FEELINGS FOR HIM--
PANT!
PANT!
PANT!
IT'S TIME
DID YOU BRING THE EXAM PERMIT?
YOU DIDN'T FORGET IT RIGHT?!
I ALREADY BROUGHT IT!

Finish the entire paper!
LISTEN, ALRIGHT? EVEN IF YOU DON'T DO WELL, YOU STILL MUST COME HOME IMMEDIATELY!
I GOT IT.


SHE WENT FOR A JOG.
WHERE'S SEARA?

....



SHUU-CHAN——!

THANK GOD, I MADE IT!
FOR YOU!
じゃーん
Success in studies
LOOK
I WENT TO GET THIS CHARM FOR YOU EARLY IN THE MORNING!
DO YOUR BEST!
SMILE
WE SURE THINK ALIKE.
THANKS!
FOR ME?
FOR YOU!

SHUU-CHAN TOO!
YOU MUST... GET A VIC-TORY!
GATHER
NOW ALL I'LL THINK ABOUT IS THE MATCH,
THIS IS ALSO FOR SHUU-CHAN WHO TRAINED ME!
WE'LL BEGIN THE GRADUA-TION MATCH BY THE TWO SCHOOLS.

IT'S FINALLY THE MATCH!
BA-DUM!!
ARISA!
!!!
KITA 11
LIGHTNING
MINAMI 5
SHE'S ONLY TRAINED FOR A MONTH, YET SHE STILL TALKS BIG...
AND SHE'S ONLY A BENCH-WARMER TOO (COZ SHE'S A NEWCOMER)
Wah
Wah
Wah
Wah
THUMP!
THUMP!
GO FOR IT--!!
RIGHT THERE! CHARGE!!

THEIR PLAYERS ARE ALSO INFECTED BY HER ENERGY...
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
THEIR TEAM-MATES SURE ARE ENERGETIC,
EVERY-ONE IS CENTER-ING ON SEARA.

WAH- SHE REALLY PLAYS VERY WELL!
Memor-ise the opponent's at-tacking habits
There'll be a lot of repeats
It'd be easier to defend if you can pre-dict the opponent's move
WHOOSH!!
SWISH!!
GANNER: DATA INPUT INTO BRAIN

CHANGE PLAYER!!
Rustle!
BEGIN!
THUMP!
THUMP!
Wah
GO FOR IT SEARA!

!!!
KITA
11
PA!
I HAVE TO WIN!
YOU MUST GIVE IT ALL YOU HAVE AND WIN!
HIT!!

!!!
5
KITA
11
Wah
ワ
COME ON!
Wah
ワー
THUMP!
ダン
WHOOSH!
THUMP!
ダン
AMAZING! SHE DODGED 3 PEOPLE EASILY!
WHEN DID SHE BECOME THIS GOOD
IT'S
SO EASY!
KITA

KITA
11
THIS IS AS EASY AS THE HURDLE RACE IN TRACK AND FIELD! HA! HA!
SHA!!
THE OPPONENTS' ACTIONS LOOK LIKE IT'S IN SLOW-MOTION.
I'M A WALL
COMPARED TO SHUU-CHAN'S CONCRETE WALL-LIKE DEFENSE,
SHE IS COOL BUT...
SEARA IS GREAT! SO COOL!
SHE DODGED IT AGAIN!
I'LL DEFINITELY WIN!
MINAMI
5
WHOOSH!!
EH?
ISN'T HER PERCENTAGE OF HITS A LITTLE TOO LOW?

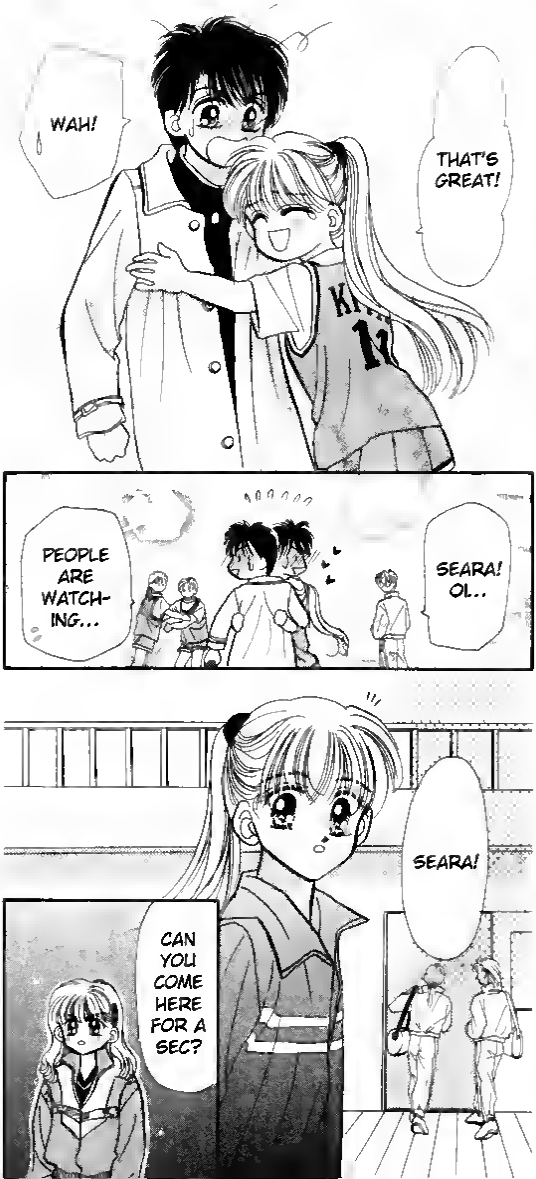
NO WONDER.
OH YEAH, SHE SAID SHE ONLY PRACTICED GOING PAST THE OPPONENTS' DEFENSE THIS MONTH...
and the scor-ing
IT'S OVER! IT'S OVER!
SHUUHEI, LET'S GO GRAB A BITE!
SORRY, I HAVE SOMETHING ON.
Behold, my special skill!!
Left-handed scoring!
Of course it didn't go in
Back pass!
I'LL DEFINITELY STOP HER NEXT TIME!
WE'RE OVERWHELMED BY HER DETERMINATION!

I'LL DEFINITELY BEAT HER!
A SWIFT AND STRONG STRATEGY IS WORKING...
BECAUSE NO ONE CAN CATCH UP TO SEARA'S SPEED.
KITA
!!!
Foul!
PAIN!
ARE YOU OKAY SEARA?
AH! SHE COMPLETELY LOST CONTROL...
ANGRY
I'M FINE.

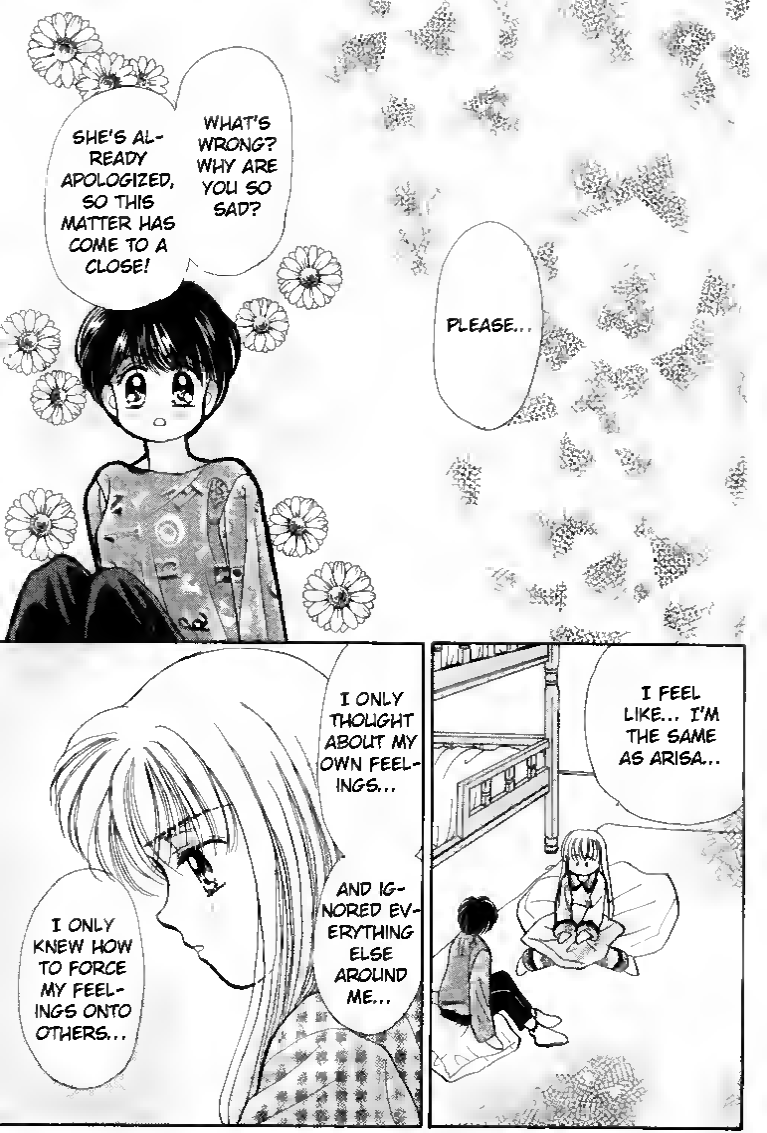
THUMP!
11
Lower your waist,
...try to reduce the distance between you and your opponent and study her movements carefully.
SMACK!!

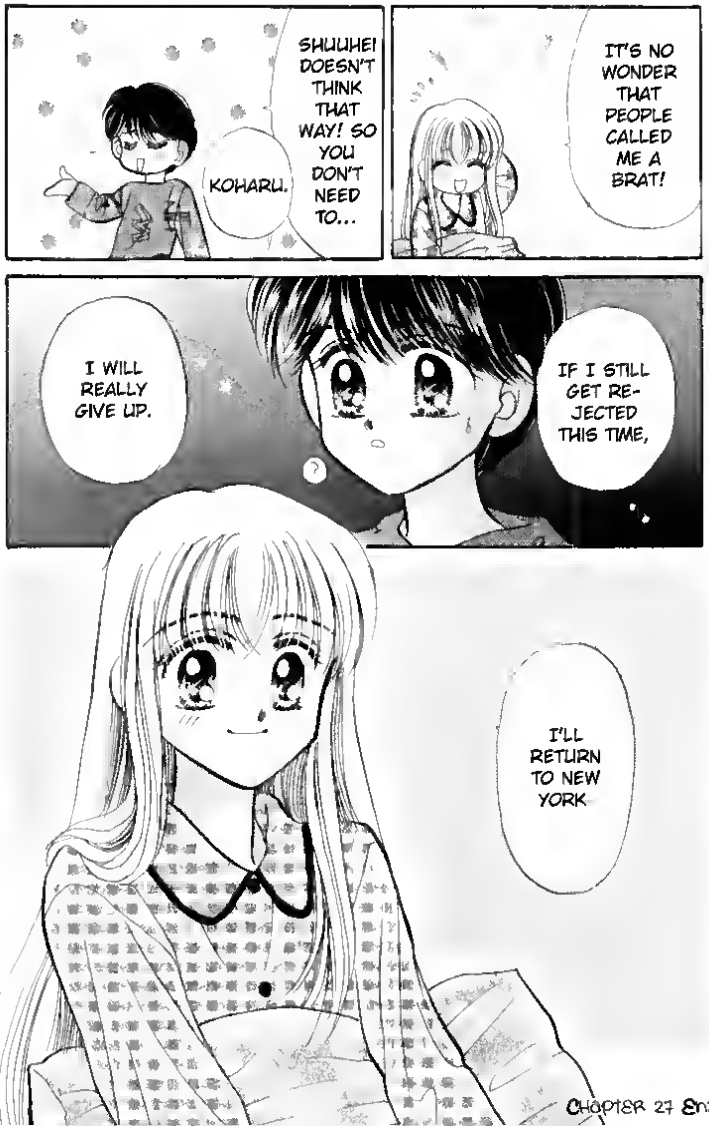
STEAL THE BALL!!
Keep your arms tight.
remember to stay in a position that allows you to move easily.
Use your whole body to throw it!
PI
GAME OVER!
Ya
Ya
IT'S GREAT! IT'S OUR FIRST WIN!
KITA 11

I WON!
SHUU-CHAN!
SHUU-CHAN! I WON!
YUP! I SAW IT, YOU PLAYED REALLY WELL!
I ONLY DID WHAT SHUU-CHAN TOLD ME...
IT'S THANKS TO YOU THAT I WON!
HOW DID YOU DO ON FOR YOUR EXAMS?
OH! VERY GOOD!
REALLY?


WAH!
THAT'S GREAT!
PEOPLE ARE WATCH-ING...
SEARA! OI..
SEARA!
CAN YOU COME HERE FOR A SEC?

I THINK... I WAS WRONG IN THE PAST...
I'M SORRY.
ARE YOU REALLY SINCERE?
PLEASE, DON'T TAKE SUBARU AWAY!
!
I APOLOGIZE TO YOU NOW... I BEG YOU...
PLEASE DON'T TAKE SUBARU AWAY...
I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO HAVE SUBARU ...
SO I DID THOSE THINGS.


SHE'S ALREADY APOLOGIZED, SO THIS MATTER HAS COME TO A CLOSE!
WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU SO SAD?
PLEASE...
I ONLY KNEW HOW TO FORCE MY FEELINGS ONTO OTHERS...
I ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT MY OWN FEELINGS...
AND IGNORED EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND ME...
I FEEL LIKE... I'M THE SAME AS ARISA...


SHUUHE! DOESN'T THINK THAT WAY! SO YOU DON'T NEED TO...
KOHARU.
IT'S NO WONDER THAT PEOPLE CALLED ME A BRAT!
I WILL REALLY GIVE UP.
IF I STILL GET RE-JECTED THIS TIME,
I'LL RETURN TO NEW YORK

CHAPTER 27 END

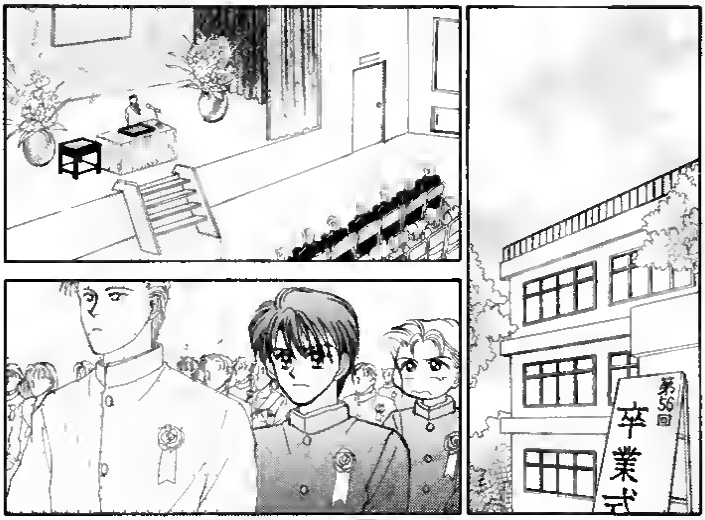
OPENS
OPENS
AH!
GOOD MORNING, SHUU-CHAN!
MORN-ING!

Heh heh!
THANKS! YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO FORMAL!
Bow ~
CONGRATULATIONS ON GRADUATING!
We're leaving!
WEARING A KIMONO WOULD BE BETTER RIGHT?
TODAY IS SHUU-CHAN'S JUNIOR HIGH GRADUATION CEREMONY
The elementary school's graduation ceremony is at a later date.
GLARE
IT'S STILL THE SAME NO MATTER WHAT YOU WEAR.
This is the last time I'll be wearing this uniform

POUT
How could I not be mad!
C'MON KOHARU, DON'T BE MAD ANY-MORE.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED LAST CHRIST-MAS ..
AND BOTH OF YOU KEPT IT FROM ME...
Also! Why does that thick-skinned fellow called Subaru know everything that I don't! That pisses me off more than any-thing!
Thick-skinned fellow ~~
HUH!
It wasn't inten-tional
BECAUSE IF I TOLD YOU, YOU WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE THIS REACTION...
of course!

I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING!
YOU STILL LIKE MY BROTHER AFTER THE WAY HE TREATED YOU?
EVEN A FOOL HAS HIS LIMITS!
WHAT'S MORE THAT GUY ACTUALLY SAID. "SHE'LL STILL LIKE ME REGARDLESS OF WHAT I SAY TO HER."
HE DEFINITELY THINKS THAT YOU ARE SOMEONE WHO WOULD RELENT IMMEDIATELY!
AHH... RAI-KUN ALREADY TOLD ME THAT...
And you really don't mind?
YEAH! HE ALREADY KNOWS HOW I FEEL.
SO NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I WOULD STILL LIKE HIM...

EVEN IF HE REJECTS ME AND LEAVES ME...
MY FEELINGS FOR HIM WILL NEVER CHANGE...
You're not listening to me at all.
Are you an idiot?
BECAUSE LOVE DOESN'T NEED ANYTHING IN RETURN.
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT A LIFETIME HERE!
Stupid !!
Kokoro
Sob


第56回
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WITHOUT ME IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'D DEFINITELY BE VERY LONELY!
THAT'S MY LINE!
Who was the one who cried during the ceremony?

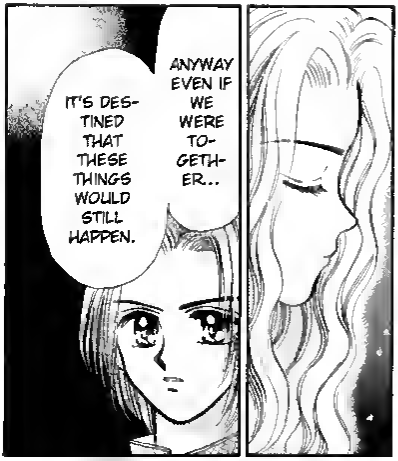
DON'T GIVE UP ON BASKETBALL!
YEAH! LET'S MEET ON COURT!
OH YEAH SHUUHEI.
HAVE YOU TOLD SEARA THAT YOU LIKE HER YET?
BAM!
YOU HAVEN'T TOLD HER YET? I REALLY CAN'T STAND YOU!
IF YOU DON'T MAKE UP YOUR MIND SOON, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL IN PEACE!

SEARA IS WAITING...
FOR YOU TO SAY IT.
...
THAT'S RIGHT... YOU SAID A GIRL FROM SECOND YEAR GAVE YOU VALENTINE'S DAY CHOCOLATES. HOW ARE THINGS NOW?
!!!
I...I... NOTHING!
ぐいっ
SHIDO-SENPAI!
!

PL... PLEASE GIVE YOUR BUTTON TO ME!
PLEASE!
EH? UM... ERM--
SOR-RY...
I'M BUSY ...
That's impossible!!
Please don't gradu-ate!
She's quite cute.
I hope it works out for him.
SHUU-HEI.
I HEARD YOU GOT INTO SEINAN GIRLS HIGH. CONGRATU-LATIONS!
THANKS.
I'M GOING TO BE A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL SOON!

HOW WE MIGHT NOT SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN... I STILL...
WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR-SELF...
WHEN I THINK ABOUT...
ALTHOUGH A LOT OF UNHAPPY THINGS HAP-PENED...
I...
AM GLAD I MET YOU.
Thank good-ness I made it What a relief!
SHUUHE!, YOU MADE IT TO HIGH SCHOOL TOO, THAT'S GREAT!

YEAH!
YOU TOO!


ANYWAY EVEN IF WE WERE TO-GETH-ER...
IT'S DES-TINED THAT THESE THINGS WOULD STILL HAPPEN.

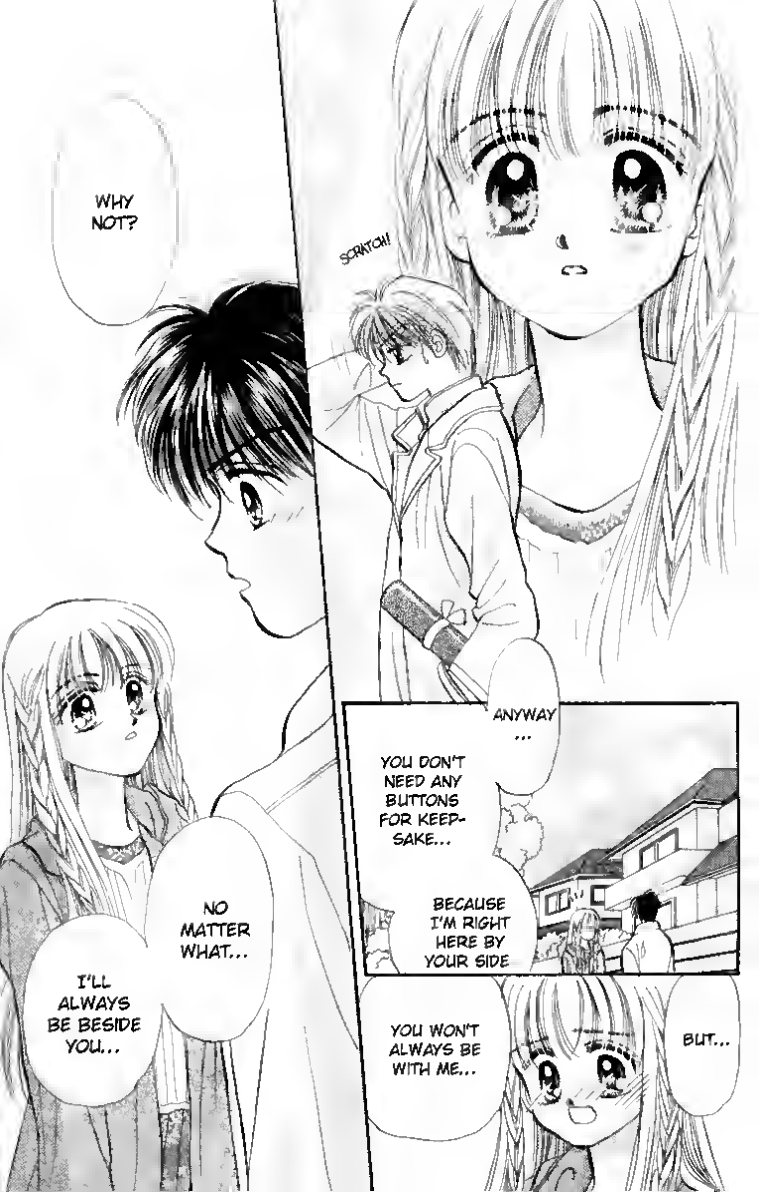
IF IT WASN'T FOR ME...
BOTH OF YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN TOGETHER.
IT'S NO USE SAYING SUCH THINGS NOW..

I'm Arisugawa Seara.
She's staying at my place
THE PERSON AT THE OTHER END OF SHUUHEI'S RED THREAD,
HAS AL-READY BEEN FIXED A LONG TIME AGO.

YOU SURE CAN TALK!
Whaf
Sigh
I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY OTHER GUY THAT'S BETTER THAN KOU!
REALLY THINK THAT WAY.
I...
GO FIND YOURSELF A GOOD GUY!
AYANO!
YEAH!
TAKE CARE!
GOOD-BYE!

Shuuuuu
chann
Shuuuuu
chann
RUNNING
だだだだだ
?
SHUU-
CHAAANN
NNN!!
Ahhhh!
ALL
YOUR
BUT-
TONS
REALLY
HAVE
BEEN
TAKEN!!
OH NO!
I'M TOO
LATE.
WHH
ぼっ

"SINCE YOU WOULDN'T ACCEPT OUR CHOCOLATES, AT LEAST GIVE US YOUR BUTTONS." SO...
BECAUSE THE GIRLS IN MY CLASS AND MY KOUHAI ALL SURROUNDED ME AND SAID...
EH?
AH!
THIS MORNING, I FORGOT TO ASK YOU TO GIVE THEM TO ME FIRST!
WAH AH AH!
.....
What's there to cry about? Oi!
THIS IS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE IN ARISUGAWA SEARA'S LIFE--
SHUU-CHAN, DO YOU HATE CHOCOLATES?
Did you force yourself to eat mine?
AH!
N...
NO!
YOU DIDN'T ACCEPT THEIR CHOCOLATES...
WHY?


WHY NOT?
SCRATCH!
ANYWAY ...
YOU DON'T NEED ANY BUTTONS FOR KEEP-SAKE...
BECAUSE I'M RIGHT HERE BY YOUR SIDE
BUT...
YOU WON'T ALWAYS BE WITH ME...
NO MATTER WHAT...
I'LL ALWAYS BE BESIDE YOU...

SEARA, I...
HAVE SOME-THING TO TELL YOU...
SHUU-CHAN..?
SEARA.
SHOCK!
RUNNING
SUBARU ...?!

THE SHOP THAT WE WENT TO PREVIOUSLY HAS NEW STOCKS OF THE WATCH YOU WANTED!
IF WE DON'T HURRY, IT'LL BE SOLD OUT AGAIN!
WAIT! I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY...
Jerk
!
?

THE ONE WHO IS NOT QUALIFIED TO COMPETE WITH ME,
DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO STOP ME EITHER.
WAIT A MINUTE! SUBARU?
IT HURTS! STOP PULLING!
♫
DAZED...
.....

SFX: GROAN ~!!
I'M FEEL-ING.. PARA-LYZED..?!
WHA... WHAT'S GOING ON?
URGH...
Float~!!
Bright~
△×◎ !!!!
I WANT YOU TO ANSWER ME HON-ESTLY.
!!!

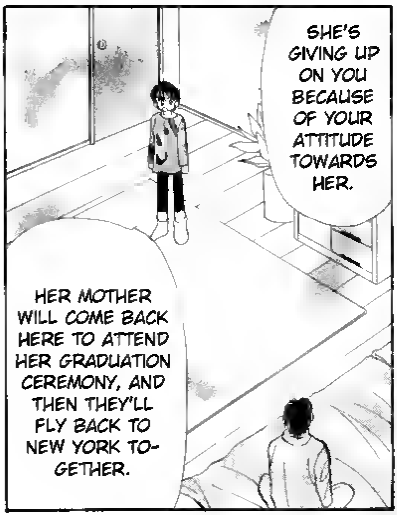
NII-CHAN, WHAT DO YOU SEE SEARA AS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU GAVE ME A SHOCK
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU...
ARE YOU AVOIDING IT?
!
IT'S PRECISELY YOUR INDECISIVE ATTITUDE THAT LED HER AROUND IN CIRCLES.
AH?!
IF YOU ARE A MAN, THEN MAKE YOUR DECISION QUICKLY!
UNBELIEVABLE!
THAT THE TWO OF YOU ARE PRETENDING THAT NOTHING HAS HAPPENED AND GOING ABOUT YOUR LIVES!
IT MAKES ME MAD,

I'M VERY CLEAR ...
ABOUT MY FEEL-INGS NOW...
TODAY THAT SUBARU GUY TOOK SEARA AWAY IN FRONT OF ME...
AND SAID THAT I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO STOP HIM.
HE WAS RIGHT SO I COULDN'T SAY ANY-THING.
BUT THE ONE THAT MAKES ME REALLY ANGRY...
IS MYSELF.
.....
NII-CHAN, IN THE END YOU'RE STILL PRO-TECTING YOURSELF.
!

BECAUSE YOU STILL CARE ABOUT YOUR PRIDE THE MOST!
JUST THINK ABOUT IT...
AND YOU WOULD KNOW WHAT SEARA WANTS! WHAT SHE'S BEEN WAITING FOR!
BUT YOU'VE NEVER EVEN ONCE CONSIDERED HER FEELINGS!
HIT!
!
A GUY LIKE YOU HAS NO RIGHT TO TALK ABOUT LOVE!
?
THAT'S WHAT I FOUND IN SEARA'S CLOSET!

EH...?!

SEARA...
IS GOING BACK TO NEW YORK.


SHE'S GIVING UP ON YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS HER.
HER MOTHER WILL COME BACK HERE TO ATTEND HER GRADUATION CEREMONY, AND THEN THEY'LL FLY BACK TO NEW YORK TO-GETHER.

THAT'S NOT TRUE...
RIGHT?
WHEN SHE GOES BACK TO NEW YORK, SHE'LL NEVER RETURN AGAIN!
SLAM!!
Rustle!
Rustle!
?
Merry Christmas

I hope we'll be able to spend the next Christmas together as well.
Merry Christmas
I'm giving you all my love!
Seara
♡

....
I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO ASK ME OUT.
WHAT'S UP?

LET'S HAVE A MATCH!
ONE ON ONE!
SMACK!
JUST LIKE YOUR MATCH WITH RAI.

YOU MEAN..
YOU SEE ME AS YOUR RIVAL NOW?
IT'S NOT THAT.
IT'S BE-CAUSE I'VE HURT SEARA DEEPLY AND THAT'S THE COLD HARD TRUTH.
BUT I CAN'T AVOID HOW I FEEL NOW JUST BE-CAUSE OF THAT.
HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW?

CHAPTER 28 END

EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T ACCEPT MY FEELINGS AND WE'RE ABOUT TO PART...
MY FEELINGS FOR HIM WILL NEVER EVER CHANGE...

THUD!!
EVEN IF YOU WON'T GIVE UP ON SEARA ...
TEN POINTS TO WIN.
I WON'T GIVE UP EITHER!

WITH NO TIME LIMIT.
THUD!
LET'S SEE WHO GIVES UP FIRST.
THUD!
THUD!
DON'T UNDER-ESTI-MATE ME...
I CAN SCORE AT LEAST A POINT IN 30 MIN-UTES!
THUD!

THUD!
P
PRINCETON

WAH!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
PAC... PACK-ING MY BAG...
Folding~

You're going to New York already?
Why have you given up all of a sudden?
IT'S NOT THAT.
MY MUM IS HERE, SO I'LL BE STAYING AT OUR HOUSE FOR A WHILE...
THAT'S WHY I'M PACKING MY THINGS!
IS THAT SO?
WHAT DID YOUR FAMILY DO WITH THE HOUSE?
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN EMPTY, BUT WE'RE RENTING IT TO MY COUSIN WHO'S GOING TO STUDY AT THE UNIVERSITY...
SO WE'RE GOING BACK TO PACK UP OUR STUFF.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING BACK TO NEW YORK!
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD FOR SO LONG...
YOU HAVE TO CONTINUE YOUR EFFORT FROM NOW ON!

!
IF I'M NOT HERE, YOU'D DEFINITELY FEEL VERY LONELY RIGHT?
RIGHT NOW...
I HAVE NO MORE STRENGTH ... I'VE TRIED MY BEST...
BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT!
EVEN THOUGH I'M WELL AWARE OF IT...
IT STILL HURTS...
SO... I CAN ONLY RUN AWAY!
THUD!
THUD!
THUD!

NOT YET! NOT YET!
!!!
DAMN...
Pant!
Pant!
SMACK!
SMACK!
JUST GIVE UP ALREADY!
WHAM!!
Hn!
ARE YOU... SERIOUS ABOUT SEARA?
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES,
I WON'T LET YOU SCORE!
Pant!
Pant!
HOW COULD THIS BE... IT'S ALREADY BEEN THREE HOURS, YET I CAN'T EVEN SCORE A SINGLE POINT...

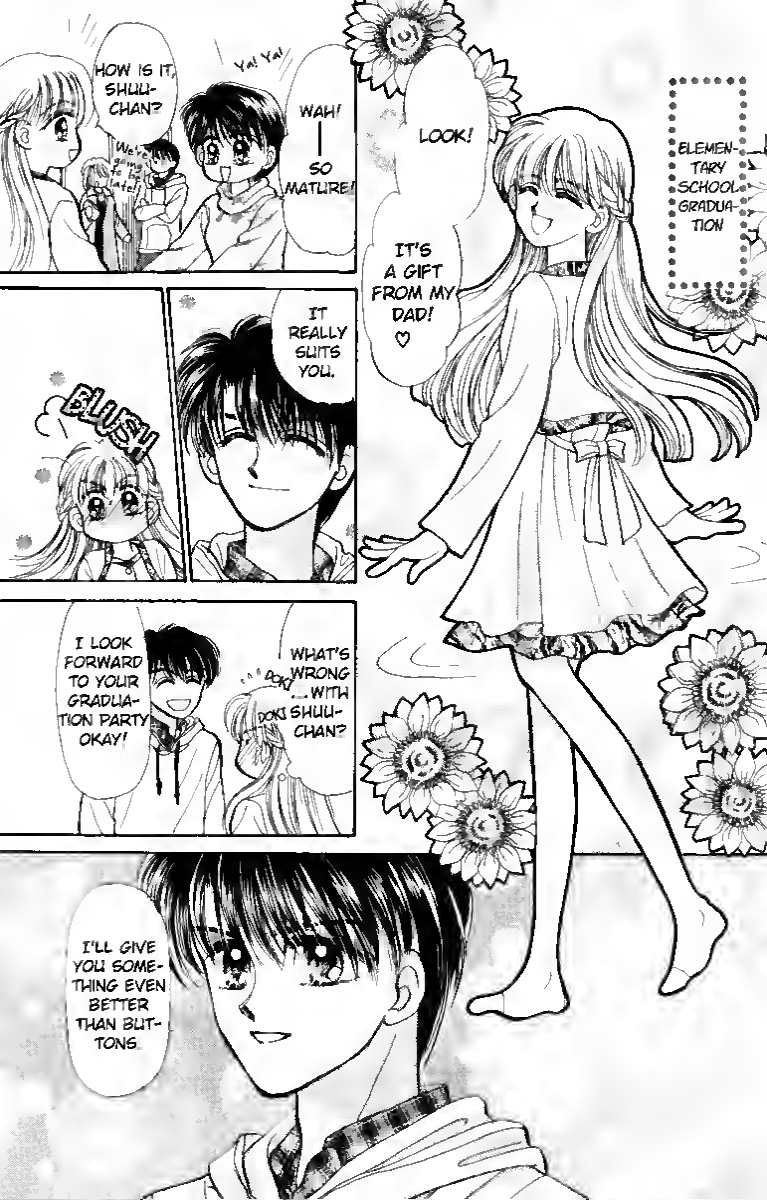
SHUUHEI, A LOT OF GIRLS CHASE AFTER YOU, RIGHT?
WHY ARE YOU SET ON SEARA?
THAT PERSON ...
TOOK OVER MY HEART FORCE-FULLY...
AND HAVE STAYED THERE EVER SINCE.
I'm always here
UNKNOWINGLY, I BECAME AT-TACHED TO HER INSTEAD...
I CAN'T LOSE HER ANYMORE...

すーん
Yeah! I think so
Gross!
Gross!
SUCH CORNY LINES!
I DID HURT HER IN THE PAST ...
BUT NOW, I'LL TREASURE HER..
I WON'T HAND SEARA OVER TO YOU!
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY...
THERE'S NO TIME LIMIT!
PRINCETON
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF!
EH?
SHOCK!
I KNOW I'M BEING CRUEL TO YOU, BUT I WANT TO TAKE THIS CHANCE AND ASK YOU TO GIVE UP ON SEARA...
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT GIVING UP?

SINCE I NOW KNOW OF YOUR FEELINGS TOWARDS SEARA, YOU'RE MY RIVAL.
BUT I STILL WON'T ACCEPT YOU AS HER BOYFRIEND!
MY DETERMINATION CAN'T BE DISSOLVED IN JUST THREE HOURS!
THAT'S TRUE, BUT IT'S ALREADY PAST THREE HOURS...
SO THERE'RE PLENTY OF CHANCES TO BE NEAR HER!
Minami
Kita
Kita Jr. High
DUE TO A CHANGE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, I'LL BE STUDYING AT THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL AS SEARA...
I CAN'T WIN AGAINST YOU NOW, BUT I'LL TRAIN HARD AND CHALLENGE YOU AGAIN.
BE PREPARED...
I'LL DEFINITELY BECOME A GREAT GUY IN THE FUTURE!

I DIDN'T KNOW SUCH A THING HAPPENED.

Celebration party
Thank God we won't have to use this
Why take it out then?
THEN, SHUU-CHAN PASSED HIS EXAMS
Condolence party


ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADUATION
LOOK!
IT'S A GIFT FROM MY DAD! ♡
HOW IS IT, SHUU-CHAN?
YA! YA!
WAH! — SO MATURE!
IT REALLY SUITS YOU.
BLUSH
I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR GRADUATION PARTY, OKAY!
DOKI DOKI
WHAT'S WRONG ...WITH SHUU-CHAN?
I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING EVEN BETTER THAN BUTTONS.

NN...?
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE GRADUATED, WE'LL STILL GO TO THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL!
WAH!
WAH!
Not the least bit sad...
SATOMI LOOKS REALLY NICE!
Yah eh eh
WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT?
DOKI
DOKI
THEN, LET'S MEET IN FRONT OF THE KTV AT THREE O'CLOCK.
Karaoke! Karaoke!
I'M GOING HOME FIRST.
I'll be there later

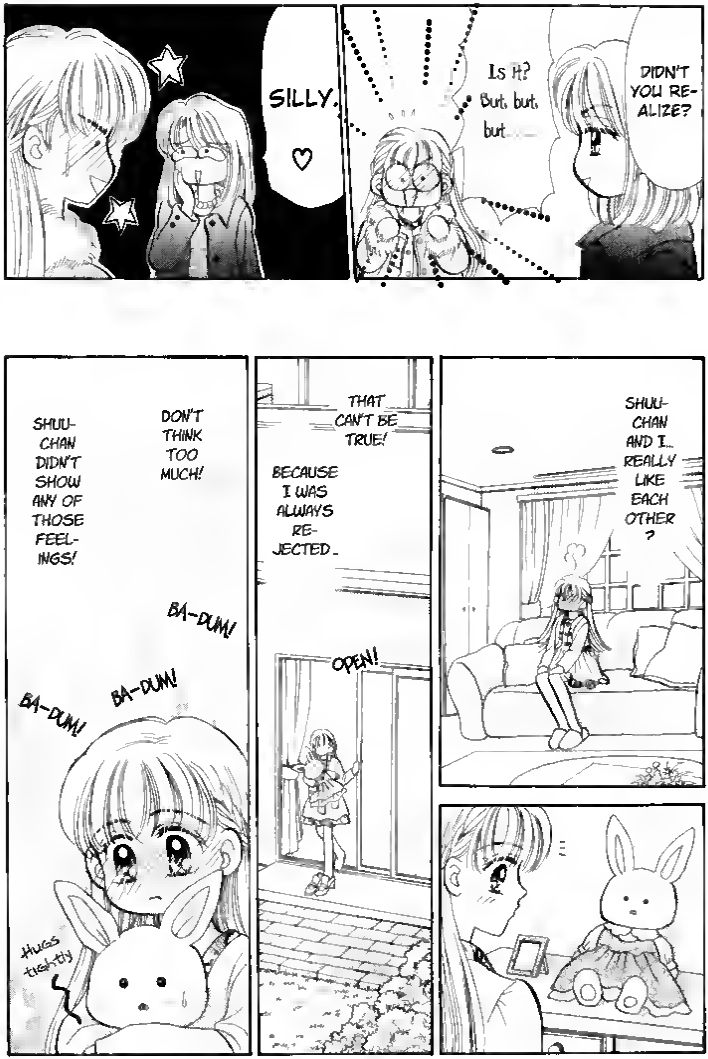
I'M HOME
WELCOME HOME!
EH? WHERE'S SEARA?
SHE PROBABLY WENT HOME...
OR..
TO THE AIRPORT TO FLY BACK TO AMERICA.
SLAM!
SHE WANTED ME TO TELL YOU THAT.
SHE SAYS IT HURTS TO SEE YOU, SO SHE LEFT WITHOUT A WORD...

SAKURA-SAKA STREET, NO 26--3
SHE'LL GO HOME FIRST BEFORE GOING TO THE AIRPORT!
WHERE IS HER HOUSE?
REALLY...
ALWAYS NEEDING MY HELP.
Let's get our spirits up and clean!
AH! THE WEEDS IN THE GARDEN HAVE OVERGROWN!
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN SIX MONTHS, YET IT FEELS SO NOSTALGIC.

HAVE YOU DECIDED ON GIVING UP?
WELL?
Yeah!
SIGH-- SO USELESS!
HOW COULD I HAVE GIVEN BIRTH TO A CHILD WITH NO PERSEVERANCE?
BUT...
I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP HOPE!
THERE'S STILL A POSSIBILITY THAT THINGS WILL CHANGE!
WHAT KIND OF POSSIBILITY?
ERM...

FOR EXAMPLE, SHUU-CHAN... HE CUT DOWN ON HIS STUDY TIME TO TRAIN ME IN BASKETBALL...
AFTER HIS EXAMS, HE EVEN CAME DOWN TO WATCH MY MATCH...
WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING MEAN, HE STOPPED ME...
WHEN I WAS DEPRESSED, HE LENT ME HIS SHOULDER...
AND,
SHUU-CHAN SAID HE ONLY ACCEPTED MY CHOCOLATES AND NOT FROM THE OTHER GIRLS!!
HE HATES CHOCOLATES, YET HE FINISHED EVERY BIT OF MINE..
ONLY MY CHOCOLATES!

COULD THE TWO OF YOU BE...
AND, AND...
BOTH IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER?
WAHHHHH
すーすーすー
WHAT ?!!
IF HE HAS NO FEELINGS FOR YOU, WHY WOULD HE DO ALL THAT?


SILLY.
♡
Is it?
But, but, but.....
DIDN'T YOU REALIZE?
SHUU-CHAN AND I... REALLY LIKE EACH OTHER?
THAT CAN'T BE TRUE!
BECAUSE I WAS ALWAYS REJECTED...
OPEN!!
SHUU-CHAN DIDN'T SHOW ANY OF THOSE FEELINGS!
DON'T THINK TOO MUCH!
BA-DUM!
BA-DUM!
BA-DUM!
Hugs tightly

I'm not showing sympathy...
I can't just sit back and do nothing if it concerns you
No matter when... I'll always be beside you
BA-DUM!
BA-DUM!
I'll give you something even better than buttons.
SHOOSH!!!

SHUU-CHAN!
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
DON'T GO...
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!
Pant!

DON'T GO BACK TO NEW YORK!
EVEN IF YOU WANT TO, I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO!
NEVER!

OKAY...
Tear
SEARA ...?
WHOOSH
Seara!!

.....
.....
That stupid Koharu.
Darn!
I COULD REALLY GO AWAY ONE DAY...
ALTHOUGH SHE DID LIE TO YOU ABOUT ME LEAVING TODAY,
THIS IS REVENGE FOR NOT TELLING ME ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED ON CHRISTMAS DAY
Seara's late!
I think she's not coming home!

IT'S STRANGE... I THINK I'VE SEEN THIS PLACE BEFORE...
I RE-MEMBER THAT TREE!
THIS IS WHERE WE FIRST MET.
IT'S ALSO WHERE I FIRST FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU.
IF WE HADN'T MET AT THAT TIME, WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED?

I'D DO MY BEST TO FIND YOU...
NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES.
SHUU-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU GIVING ME FOR MY GRADUA-TION?
Searching
Open!
?
LIFT
WAH ...!

I GIVE ALL MY...
FEELINGS TO YOU!!
I'M NOT HOLDING ANYTHING BACK..
IT'S ALL FOR YOU!

NO WAY ...
BE-CAUSE ...
SHUU-CHAN...
TREATS ME LIKE A KID...
BELIEVE ME!

AS LONG AS YOU WANT IT,
IT'D DEFINITELY BE SEARA'S.
AND I'LL ALWAYS STAY BY YOUR SIDE...

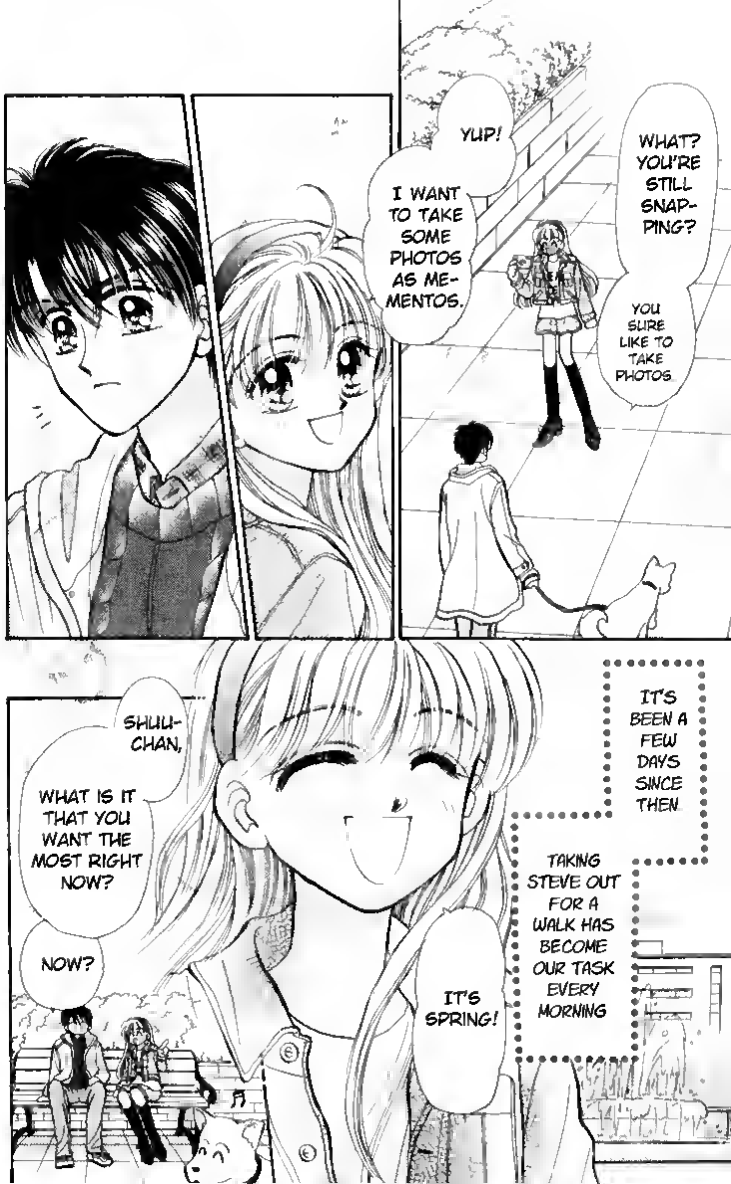
SEARA .....
OUCH...
HIT!
HIT!
Even if you want me to return it,
I won't!

DON'T CRY...
I LOVE SEARA'S SMILE THE MOST...

I'M SORRY, FOR MAKING YOU WAIT FOR SO LONG...

THIS IS MY FOURTH TIME ASKING THIS, SO YOU MUST ANSWER ME HONESTLY!
CAN I ALWAYS BE HERE?
CAN I STAY BY YOUR SIDE FOR-EVER AND EVER?
CHAPTER 29 END

SNAP!
HM?
SHUU-CHAN!
LOOK HERE!

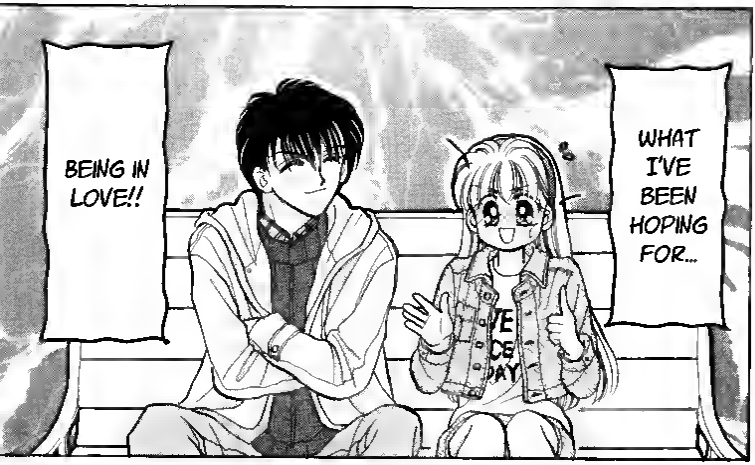

WHAT? YOU'RE STILL SNAPPING?
YOU SURE LIKE TO TAKE PHOTOS.
YUP!
I WANT TO TAKE SOME PHOTOS AS MEMENTOS.
IT'S BEEN A FEW DAYS SINCE THEN.
TAKING STEVE OUT FOR A WALK HAS BECOME OUR TASK EVERY MORNING
IT'S SPRING!
SHUU-CHAN,
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT THE MOST RIGHT NOW?
NOW?

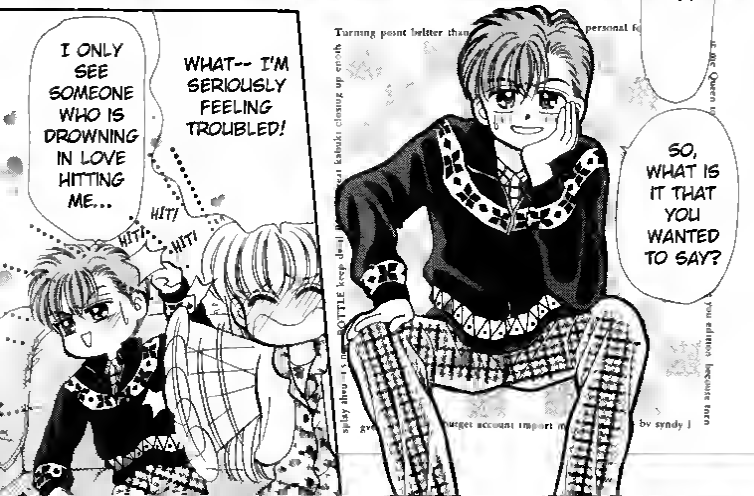
MO...
OF COURSE IT'S...
A MO-TOR-BIKE!
TAKING THE TRAIN TO SCHOOL IS TOO TIRING.
I'M ALMOST 18. I'LL BE ABLE TO GET MY LICENSE THEN...
MOTOR-BIKE...?
Really?
BUT ONCE CLUB AC-TIVITIES START, I WON'T HAVE TIME TO WORK.
SO IF I DON'T WORK, I CAN'T AFFORD IT.
AFTER I TOLD MUM ABOUT THIS, SHE SAID "YOU CANNOT BUY SOME-THING SO DANGER-OUS!"
You don't say
HOW CAN THAT BE!
YOUR SCHOOL ALLOWS YOU TO DRIVE A MOTOR-BIKE TO CLASS?

Motor-bike... Wait...
Even the cheap-est costs 30,000 yen.
Mumbling to her-self
How can I afford that...?
!!!
ARE YOU PLAN-NING SOME-THING ?
BA-DUM
I...I'M NOT PLAN-NING ANY-THING!
BA-DUM
Smirk!
STEVE... HAS RUN OFF TOO FAR AGAIN!
CLATTER
PULL
VE A NICE DAY

SIT DOWN!
どっ
DO
きん
KIN
SHU .. SHUU-CHAN, IT'S NOT COLD ANY-MORE, WEARING THAT SWEATER MUST BE HOT RIGHT?
blush~
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO WEAR IT
IT'S FINE, I LIKE THIS SWEAT-ER!
THERE'S A HOLE HERE FOR ME TO FEEL THE LOVE.
YOU'RE SO MEAN! CAN'T YOU PRETEND YOU DIDN'T SEE IT?

AH!
SMACK!
SCHOOL'S GOING TO START SOON...
I'M SO EXCITED! I WONDER WHAT KIND OF STUDENTS WILL BE THERE?
THIS... THIS...
Um
And
THIS IS LIKE...


BEING IN LOVE!!
WHAT I'VE BEEN HOPING FOR...


I ONLY SEE SOMEONE WHO IS DROWNING IN LOVE HITTING ME...
WHAT-- I'M SERIOUSLY FEELING TROUBLED!
HIT!
HIT!
HIT!
OH.
SO, WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO SAY?

Ya!
Ya!
NO WAY! SHUU-CHAN ISN'T LIKE THAT!
SHUU-CHAN WILL NEVER PUT ON A HAPPY FACE WHILE SAYING "I LIKE YOU."!
OH REALLY ...
Ya!
Ya!
I'M NOT MY USUAL SELF SINCE BEING STARED AT BY THOSE GENTLE EYES OF HIS...
WHAT TO DO--- SUCH A HEAD-ACHE---
♡
JUST LOOK AT YOUR DELIGHTED FACE..
ISN'T THIS GOOD?
THE RIVAL STANDING BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU IS GONE.
SHUU-CHAN ...
TOLD ME EVERY-THING ABOUT AYANO-SAN
HE TOLD ME EVERYTHING I WANTED TO KNOW ..
AND THEN...
I KNOW THIS WILL HURT BOTH OF US.
BUT IT WAS THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK OF AT THAT TIME

LATER, I REALIZED I HAD USED UP ALL MY FEELINGS.
AND I WAS SLOWLY FALLING FOR YOU.
SO THE ONLY GIRL I WANT TO TREASURE NOW
IS ONLY YOU SEARA.
Ya!
What!
What!
What!
HIT!
HIT!
HIT!
SPLURT!

These words must be written in huge fonts!
I FINALLY BEAT AYANO-SAN!
THAT'S ALL YOU WANTED TO SAY RIGHT?!

Shuhei's room
WHAT IS IT?
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME, WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?
SO WHAT!
I DIDN'T COME TO SEE YOU, I CAME TO SEE SHUUHE!!
turn~
!

ジワ
SPURT!!
SHUUHEI, HAVE YOU DONE "IT" WITH SEARA?
KOHARU AND I HAD OUR FIRST DATE ON VALENTINE'S DAY.
WHY DID YOU... SUDDENLY BRING THAT UP?
BUT WE COULDN'T EVEN HOLD A NORMAL CONVERSATION
WE WERE TOO CONSCIOUS OF EACH OTHER, SO IT BECAME AWKWARD...
IF THERE WERE FRIENDS AROUND US, WE COULD STILL INTERACT...
SIGH! AT THIS RATE, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHETHER WE CAN DO "IT".
SO I WANTED TO ASK YOU TO TEACH ME ABOUT WHAT I SHOULD DO...
Eh?!
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT EITHER?!

SO I HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL SHE'S AT LEAST THIRTEEN.
mumble~
Platonic Shock!
BECAUSE ... IT'S DIFFICULT...
THE THOUGHT THAT SHE'S ONLY TWELVE IS A LITTLE...
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT!
SO LOOKS ARE DECEIVING AFTER ALL!
WOW ...
I'M JUST TELLING THE TRUTH! WHY? WHY?
THUD!
OUCH!
SAY THAT AFTER TEN YEARS!
AH!!
Hallucinated Feeling
IT DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL, RIGHT!
WAHH
I THINK THIS IS HER REAL SELF.
BUT NOT ANYMORE.
THE FIRST TIME I SAW SEARA, I THOUGHT SHE WAS REALLY ATTRACTIVE AND SEEMED SO MUCH OLDER THAN US.
STILL, I THINK YOU'RE GREAT.
HUH?

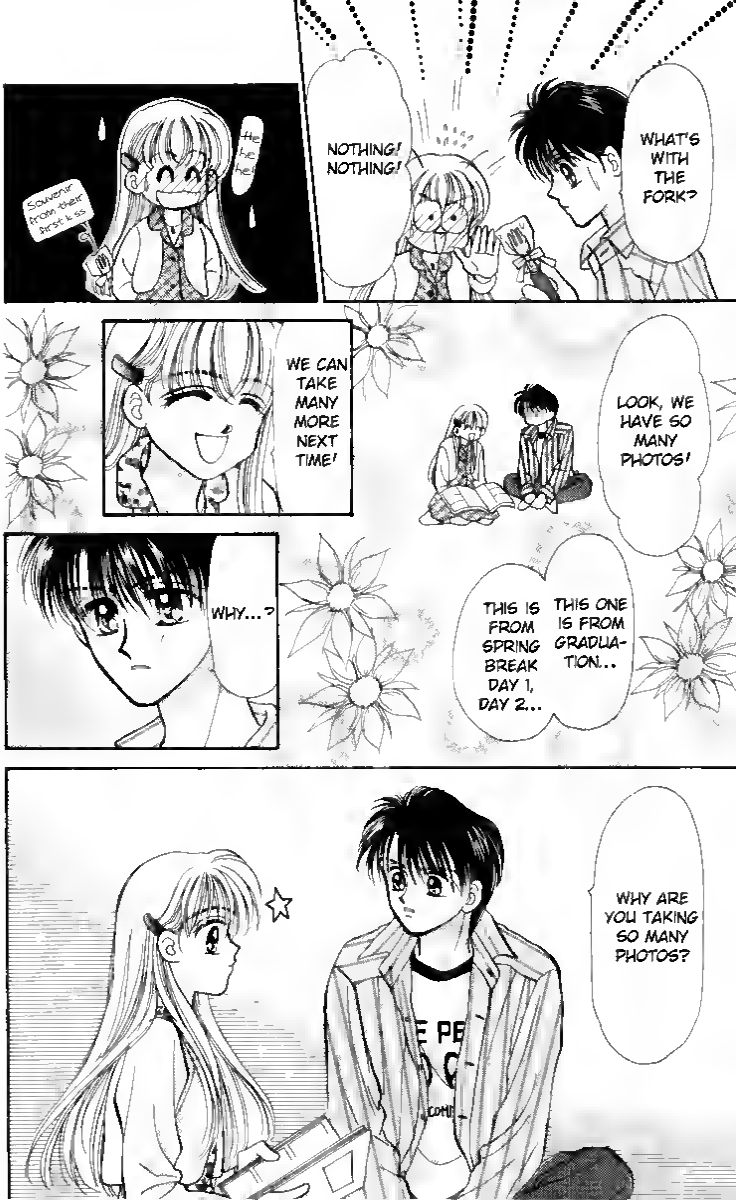
BECAUSE OF YOU, SHE FORCED HERSELF TO ACT MATURE...
LIKING SOMEONE CAN REALLY MAKE ONE CHANGE SO MUCH...

.....
You actually said that
Actually, I didn't do anything

Excuse me-

SUBARU!
YOU'RE HERE AGAIN!
SORRY I CAME UNINVITED!
I'M NOT HOME! I'VE GONE OUT!
? ?
USELESS...
LET'S GO! WE'RE CONTINUING OUR MATCH!
PULL PULL
WAIT! WAIT!
HOW CAN THE TWO OF YOU JUST IGNORE MY WISHES AND DECIDE ON THIS MATCH?!
LET ME SAY THIS FIRST. THIS WAS SHUUHEI'S IDEA!
PUSH
WHAT? YOU'RE HAVING A ONE ON ONE MATCH WITH SHUUHEI? THAT'S SO CUNNING---
Let's go! Fight for victory!

Rummaging~
♫ ♪ ♪
Open~
TREASURE BOX
We can't even go anywhere this winter break with Subaru coming over everyday.
He's just like a pest!
So annoying!
ARE YOU A COLLECTOR?
Want to put in a strand of my hair too?
AND...
As well as his uniform that I made him give me. ♡
PAT PAT
AND THE LUCKY CHARM THAT SHUU-CHAN GAVE ME. ♬
Of course I kept the packaging too
THIS IS THE SILVER BEAR NECKLACE THAT SHUU-CHAN GAVE ME ♬
And the admission ticket to the amusement park that we went to together~
YA


Souvenir from their first kiss
He-he-he~
NOTHING! NOTHING!
WHAT'S WITH THE FORK?
WE CAN TAKE MANY MORE NEXT TIME!
LOOK, WE HAVE SO MANY PHOTOS!
WHY...?
THIS IS FROM SPRING BREAK DAY 1, DAY 2...
THIS ONE IS FROM GRADUATION...
WHY ARE YOU TAKING SO MANY PHOTOS?

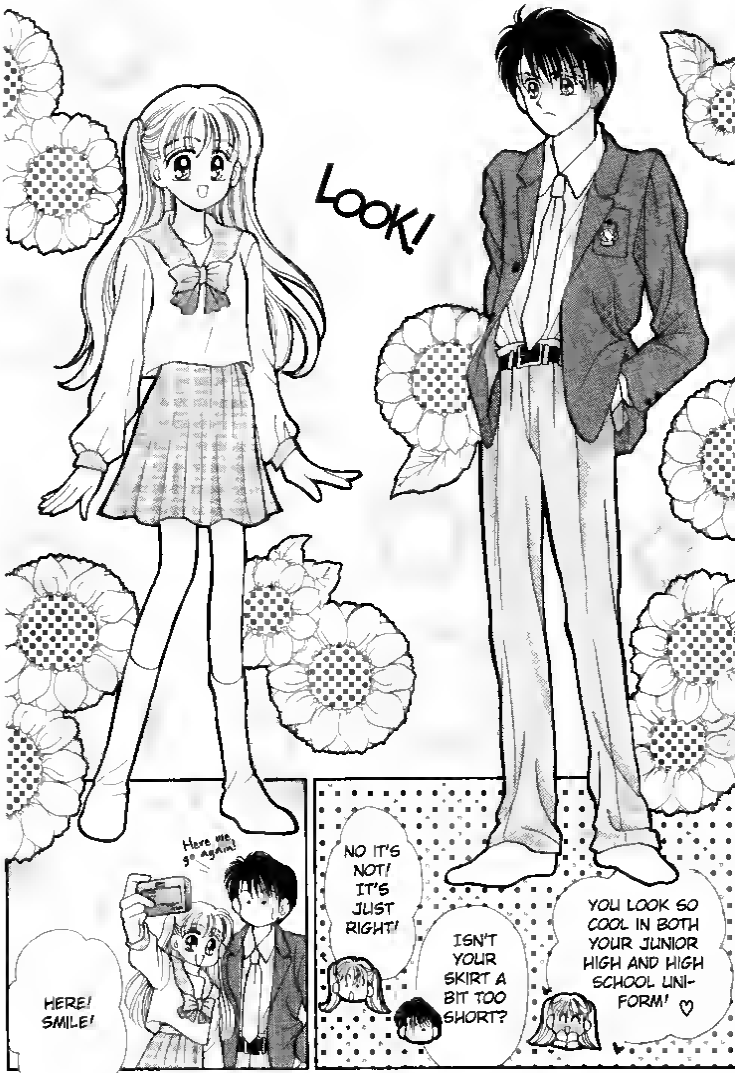
AND IT HAP-PENED SUD-DENLY AFTER WINTER BREAK TOO.
WHY DO YOU WANT MEMENTOS SO MUCH?
BE-CAUSE ..
I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE...

IF... IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN AGAIN,
I WOULD'VE KEPT A LOT OF MEMORIES BY THEN, SO I WON'T BE AS SAD...
OR SO I THOUGHT...
YOU...
DON'T TRUST MY FEELINGS FOR YOU?
THEN AGAIN, THAT'S NATURAL...
IT'S NOT THAT... I DON'T THINK THAT WAY...
IT'S JUST THAT THIS HAS BEEN LIKE A DREAM TO ME. .

I'M SCARED... THAT ONE DAY I'LL WAKE UP FROM THIS DREAM...
I CAN'T GET RID OF MY UNEASE ...
IT'S SO STRANGE...
I'M SO HAPPY, YET I FEEL SO SCARED...

NOTHING WILL HAPPEN.
DEFI-NITELY...
NOTHING WILL HAPPEN.
SO...
PLEASE...
TRUST ME...
Okay?

OKAY...
Hehe!
AH.
NOW, I CAN..
EVEN DIE WITH-OUT RE-GRETS.


LOOK!
YOU LOOK SO COOL IN BOTH YOUR JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM! ♡
ISN'T YOUR SKIRT A BIT TOO SHORT?
NO IT'S NOT! IT'S JUST RIGHT!
Here we go again!
HERE! SMILE!

new school year celebration
Wah!
KOHARU! KOHARU!
WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN! YA--
Wah!
Wah!
WHAT? WHAT'S WITH THE DISDAIN ON YOUR FACES...
I'M IN THE SAME CLASS TOO!
THAT'S GREAT ♡
THERE'S NO CHANGE IN OUR GROUP!
Kyaa ♥
Kyaa ♥

IT'S YOUR FAULT THAT MY HOLIDAY'S GONE TO WASTE!
STOP BOTHERING ME!
YOU'RE SO NOT CUTE, SAYING I'M A BOTHER.
SEARA, YOU MUST BE CAREFUL!
SHUUHEI IS A HANDSOME GUY, WITH A GREAT BODY TO BOOT. WON'T GIRLS FALL FOR SUCH A GORGEOUS GUY?
WATCH OUT.. THERE MIGHT BE A BEAUTIFUL LOVE RIVAL!
fu fu fu
TWITCH
TWITCH
SUBARU, YOU'RE REALLY EVIL!
SEARA, YOU'VE BECOME SO COLD.
CHATTER!!
CHATTER!!

EXCUSE ME...
WHERE ARE THE FRESHMENS' CLASSROOMS?
WE'VE JUST ENTERED SO WE'RE NOT SURE.
I'M ALSO A FIRST YEAR..
EH? YOU'RE NOT A THIRD YEAR?
Do I look that old..
My mind is going blank
ぽん
PAT!!

HI!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT WE'D BE IN THE SAME SCHOOL...
WHERE ARE YOUR FRIENDS? THEY DIDN'T ENROL HERE?

WHO ARE YOU?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER ME?
NOPE.
AT ALL?
AT ALL.
FORGET IT! I'LL MAKE YOU REMEMBER REAL SOON!
GLARE
SHUDDER
That pisses me off!
WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS.
SETO SHUUHEI!

I AM NARUMI YUKI.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
?
?
ME TOO.
AH-- THEY WON'T DO AT ALL!
THE GUYS EITHER LOOK LIKE A NERD OR ARE UGLY!

T/n (*) schools centered on preparing students for university

FROM THEIR HEIGHT DIFFERENCE, I'D SAY HE'S PROBABLY ABOUT 190CM!
THERE'RE STILL GOOD ONES AROUND. ♡♡
OHH-- THOSE ARE THE TYPE OF GUYS THAT I LIKE.
NO WAY!
I SAW HIM FIRST!

DISCLAIMER:

IN THE PREVIOUS CHAPTERS OF BABY LOVE, THE CHARACTER WAS NAMED "REI", A WILLFUL MUSE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE CORRECTIONS AND STATE THAT THE ACTUAL NAME IS "RAI" AND SO WE WILL BE CONTINUING WITH THE NAME "RAI" IN FUTURE CHAPTERS.

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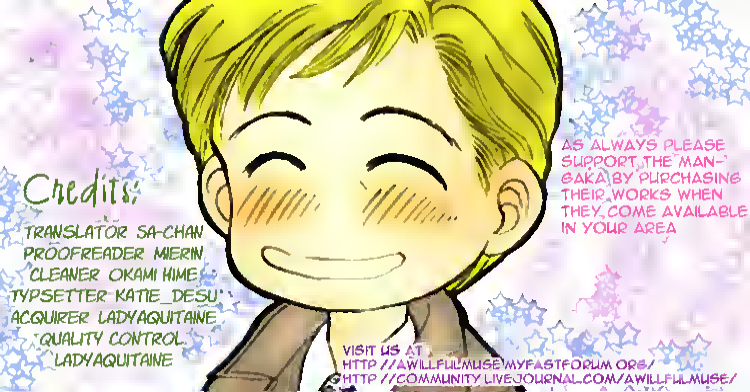
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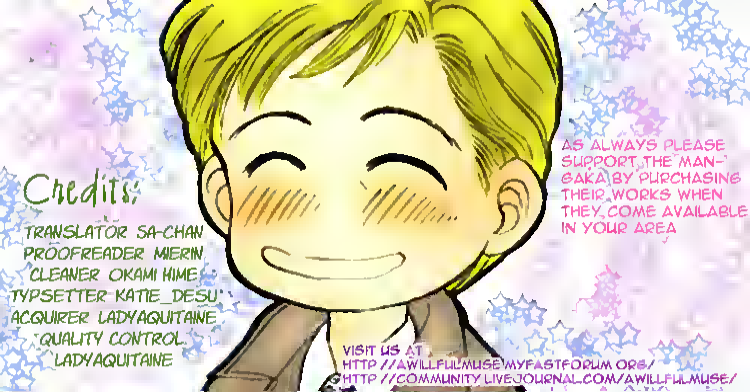
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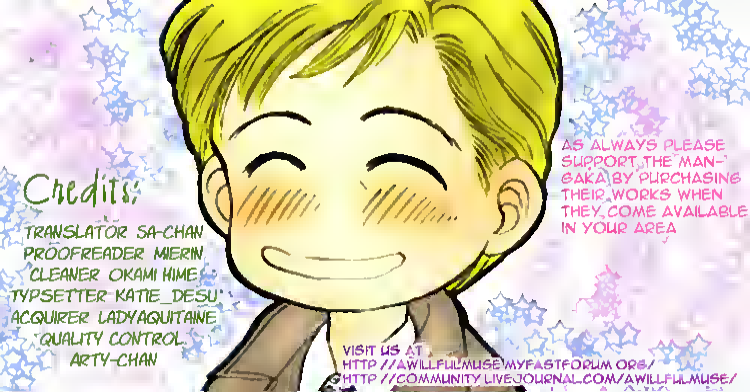
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